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**CITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
17 MARCH 1998**

**A meeting of the City Services Committee
was held on Tuesday 17 March 1998 at 9.00 am**

PRESENT: Councillor Denis O'Rourke (Chairman to 10.30 am),
Councillors Carole Anderton, David Close (Acting
Chairman 10.45 am to 11.20 am), Ian Howell
and Ron Wright (Acting Chairman 10.30 am to 10.45 am).

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from
the Mayor and Councillors Graham Condon and
Garry Moore.

The Committee reports that:

**PART C - REPORT ON DELEGATED DECISIONS
TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE**

1. CORPORATE PLAN MONITORING REPORTS 1997/98

The six monthly monitoring reports for the Parking Operations Unit, Waste Management Unit, Water Services Unit and City Streets Unit were received and dealt with as follows:

CITY STREETS UNIT

The City Streets Manager presented the report and commented further.

Operational Budget

Committee members noted an apparent reduction in quality standards in trench resealing work and questioned the supervision of contracted services. The Committee has agreed to undertake a tour of inspection of recent works.

The use of cobblestones in future street enhancement projects has been questioned taking account of the increased cleaning charges and rapid deterioration of the paving stone surfaces. The City Streets Manager has undertaken to report to the Committee on surfacing options currently available for enhancement projects and to seek comment from manufacturers on future maintenance.

The City Streets Manager will discuss with Telecom and Southpower the undergrounding of services in Twigger Street and Moule Street. He undertook to report back to the Committee if the issue could not be resolved.

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Service levels for routine maintenance activities were discussed. It was **resolved** to defer landscape maintenance upgrading (\$100,000) and that this funding be reallocated to berm reconstruction and landscaping of berm areas.

The City Streets Manager reported that an operational budget shortfall of \$1.45 million was expected at the end of the financial year. A portion of this shortfall could be accounted for by the deferral of the Woolston/Burwood expressway stage 2 property purchasing (\$603,000) and an additional provision for depreciation (\$440,000). The Director of Finance has been asked to report on how this projected deficit can most appropriately be dealt with.

Capital Budget

The City Streets Manager referred to projects to be reprogrammed from 1997/98 (Attachment D) and to 1998/99 capital projects totalling \$440,800 (Attachment E) to be brought forward to the 1997/98 year.

It was **resolved**:

1. That the report be received and the monitoring information noted.
2. That operational expenditure to year end be closely monitored and any identified surpluses be used to offset the shortfall.
3. That the list of projects to be re-programmed, as per Attachment D and totalling \$955,000 be confirmed.
4. That 1998/99 capital projects expenditure totalling \$440,800 and listed in Attachment E be brought forward to the 1997/98 year.
5. That selected renewals and replacement projects in the 1998/99 year be tendered to maintain continuity of work flow for the industry, and that any necessary further funding bring-forwards be reported to subsequent meetings of the Committee.
6. That \$250,000 for the undergrounding and streetlight conversion of the Stanmore Road (Gloucester to Avonside) roading project be brought forward from 1998/99 to 1997/98.
7. That the additional works listed in Attachment D and totalling \$468,500 be added to the 1997/98 Capital Programme, and be funded jointly by the projected surplus of -\$55,700 and a reduction in the unspecified miscellaneous 1998/99 carry-forward allocation of \$413,000.

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PARKING OPERATIONS UNIT

The Parking Operations Manager commented on the report. A significant reduction in patronage of off street parking was noted and options for encouraging greater use of parking buildings discussed.

It was **resolved** that the Parking Operations Manager report to the City Services Committee on the effect of providing formal flexibility in charges for off street parking and making early-bird parking and long term parking more attractive.

WASTE MANAGEMENT UNIT

The Waste Manager reported further on the report and undertook to discuss with the Director of Finance the depreciation issues. He would report back to the Committee on action to be taken.

The Waste Manager reported a predicted over-expenditure of \$675,000 to the end of June 1998.

It was **resolved** that the following corrective action be taken:

Shift liquid waste maintenance work from operational to capital budget	\$20,000
Savings at community recycling depots	\$50,000
Delay certain landfill aftercare	\$100,000
Reduce professional fees	\$20,000

Total	\$190,000
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WATER SERVICES UNIT

The Water Services Manager presented the report and commented further. He advised that greater data analysis would be available to the Committee on the introduction of a new financial and management information system. He would be reporting to the Committee on the leak reduction programme.

It was **resolved** that the information be received.

(Note: The resolutions of the Committee relating to the Draft Annual Plan were referred to the meeting of the Annual Plan Working Party on 18 March 1998 as part of the Council's Annual Plan process.)

The meeting concluded at 11.20 am

CONSIDERED THIS 25TH DAY OF MARCH 1998

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MAYOR